

Minutes of the Sustainability and Climate Change Task Force

August 12, 2008 - Milton Hall Room 85

Attendees: Mark Anderson (Fish/Wild/Sci), Greg Block (Auxiliary), Roberta Derlin (Dist. Ed & Ext. Learn), Steve Loring (Chair-AES), Darrell, Pehr (U-Comm), Kathy Reddington (DACC), Michael Rickenbaker (Facil Plan/Const), Tom Rubadeau (OFS), Ben Woods (SVP Plan/Phys Res), Jason Wyatt (ED), (Ida Quinones-ED) Teri Diaz (AES)

Guests: Peter Fine (Art), Lucio Garcia (OFS), Pat Chavez (OFS), Luz Elena Mimbela (IEE), Therese Shakra (IEE), Ken Durham (Johnson Controls), Evan Evans (Ecoenergy)

1. Call to order

Steve Loring (Chair) called the meeting of the Sustainability and Climate Change Task Force (SCCTF) to order. The meeting was telecast to the NMSU academic components by video conferencing to insure participation of all members of the NMSU system and to fulfill the university's commitment to address global warming.

Teri Diaz was introduced as the new person taking minutes for the SCCTF.

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes of the June 11 Meeting

The agenda was approved. The minutes/notes of the June 11, 2008 meeting were distributed with no action taken.

Steve Loring announced a briefing by Johnson Controls/Ecoenergy (Ken Durham/Evan Evans)

Ben Woods introduced Johnson Controls/Ecoenergy as the firm that has assisted several universities to help with climate and sustainability.

Ken Durham spoke about Johnson Controls working partnership with Ecoenergy to help facilitate universities with Global Energy.

Evan Evans (Sr. VP) indicated that Econenergy has worked with 560 Universities that have signed an agreement under the President's Climate Commitment. He explained ways that Ecoenergy can assist NMSU with Global Energy and Carbon Emissions. The first year after signing the commitment, the university is expected to greenhouse inventory or the carbon footprint and to develop an action plan in the second year to detail the carbon footprint from beginning levels to zero over a two-year period.

A more detail plan would be presented in the event that NMSU agrees to contract with Johnson Controls/Ecoenergy.

3. Update on Carbon Emission Inventory (Ben Woods)

Mr. Woods explained that Greenhouse gas such as CH₄, CO₂, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs and SF₆ are a major factor in global warming.

He indicated that President Martin signed an agreement on April 17, 2007 with the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment to eliminate net green house gas emission that needs immediate attention. The agreement was to create an institutional structure by June 17, 2007 and to complete a green house gas emission inventory by September 15, 2008. In addition, NMSU is to make climate neutrality and sustainability a part of the curriculum and other educational experiences of all students. The university is expected to set

September 15, 2009, as a target date for an institutional action plan and interim milestone for climate neutrality.

The Presidents Climate Commitment tangible actions:

- 1) All new construction and major renovations to be US Green Building Councils LEED Silver certified or higher (done)
- 2) Encourage use and provide access to public transportation at the institution (done)
- 3) Waste minimization component of the recycle mania competition (done)

Accomplishments: LEED certification for designers, USGBC Leadership, Recyclemania, state recognition of the recycling program, replacement of housing appliances with energy efficiency units.

Current Efforts: Carbon emissions inventory, central New Mexico wind project, Blue Mesa wind project, and review of best practices for curriculum inclusion.

Carbon Emissions Inventory: Cool planet clean air protocol (direct sources, on campus generation), Import sources (off campus from utility generation), indirect sources (commuting and waste). Natural gas purchased 625,000dth, electricity purchased 61.6 million KWH, gasoline/diesel 183,000 gallons, commuting miles* 20 million miles.

Central New Mexico Wind Project: Corona Ag Science Center transmission capability needed possible 3,000 mega watt project. Continue ongoing discussion with various wind energy developers. Propose detailed negotiation with Shell Oil. Objectives include income/research opportunities/ carbon offsets/renewable energy source.

Curriculum Discussion: How to best integrate the discussion of sustainability and climate change issues into the classroom? Need for a system wide application. Use the campus as demonstration of best practices.

Closing: Are we moving in the direction and at a pace that is acceptable to the Board of Regents?

Opportunities: Emissions reduction plan development by September 15, 2009, and the Corona wind potential.

4. Proposed Future Meeting Dates Discussion:

It was proposed that the monthly meetings be conducted on the second Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at Milton Hall Room 85. Pending the resolution of a potential class at the same time, Steve will send out a message once resolved.

5. Other:

Kathy Reddington (DACC) discussed DACC in the middle of LEED with their new theater building. Hired a firm to help with the OFS personnel and looking at an interesting subject of getting transit with the East Mesa campus. An outside agency will help us tie all together. Good project underway.

6. Closing Remarks:

There being no further business for discussion the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Teri Diaz, Executive Secretary, Ag. Exp. Station, College of Ag. & Home Ec.